

THE WASHINGTON POST  
3 August 1979

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE A-10

~~John Stansfield~~  
CALO TURNER, Adm.

~~8~~ 8 Senate Foreign  
Relations etc

# Support of SALT Pact Hinges on His Conditions, Kissinger Emphasizes

By Robert G. Kaiser  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Former secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger took his views on SALT II to the Senate Armed Services Committee yesterday, emphasizing that unless the conditions he has established are met, he would recommend rejecting or stalling the new treaty.

Substantively, Kissinger repeated the same general line he gave Tuesday to the Foreign Relations Committee. But he shaded his testimony to the relatively more hawkish Armed Services Committee to emphasize his conditions rather than his general support for SALT II.

The change in emphasis was indicated by a single sentence Kissinger added to his prepared testimony yesterday: "I would like to stress," he said, emphasizing the words audibly, "that if these conditions [that he has set] are not met, I cannot support ratification."

Carter administration officials and Senate supporters of the treaty have said they believe Kissinger's conditions can be satisfied, especially if he shows some flexibility. Kissinger hinted to the Foreign Relations Committee that he would, saying he would insist on "the major part of... or at least the spirit of the proposals that I have made" as a condition for endorsing ratification.

Kissinger has listed three conditions: the administration should enunciate a new military strategy and propose an expanded defense program to fulfill it; the Senate should adopt three understandings or reservations to the treaty clarifying its terms but not requiring new negotiations with Moscow, and the Senate should make a firm statement linking future SALT negotiations to restrained Soviet behavior around the world.

Under questioning, Kissinger yesterday told Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) that he would favor a motion to recommit the treaty—thus stalling or killing it—if his conditions were not met.

But Kissinger went on to say that he thought a consensus position could be worked out quickly, based on new administration proposals for a supplementary defense appropriations bill and a revised five-year defense plan. "I would personally be willing to cooperate with such an effort," Kissinger volunteered, "but that is not my primary responsibility."

Jackson was one of several committee members who accused the news media of misreporting the import of Kissinger's testimony to the Foreign Relations Committee. Accusations were made that both The Washington Post and The Washington Star sug-

gested that Kissinger gave more support to SALT II than he actually did. Kissinger declined to endorse or reject those criticisms.

He also declined to give any support to suggestions that the country would be better off if SALT II were rejected. Kissinger said repeatedly that he preferred that it be ratified, provided his conditions were met. And he continued to imply general support for the treaty's precise provisions by declining to criticize any of them other than the protocol, which bans sea- and land-launched cruise missiles until the end of 1981.

The problems it poses could be rectified by an understanding stating the Senate's position that the protocol could not be extended beyond its expiration date, Kissinger said.

Senators continued to greet Kissinger with a combination of deference and awe—as they had at Foreign Relations—with one dramatic exception. Sen. John C. Culver (D-Iowa) gave Kissinger a verbal battering.

"The current public cynicism and disenchantment with our foreign policy... particularly in regard to detente, stems not from anything done by the Carter administration, but I think by the euphoric and false expectations which you helped generate," Culver told an angered Kissinger.

The Foreign Relations Committee yesterday released a letter from Adm. Stansfield Turner of the CIA announcing Turner's conclusion that U.S. intelligence will be able to monitor Soviet compliance with SALT II "well enough to provide confidence that the Soviets cannot gain a substantial strategic advantage through cheating." Turner said there were a "few provisions" of the treaty that could not be monitored with great confidence, but that cheating on them in view of the risks of being caught, would be "an unattractive option" for the Soviets.

Gen. Alexander M. Haig testified on SALT II yesterday before the Foreign Relations Committee. He repeated the cautious testimony he gave earlier to Armed Services, proposing delaying the treaty until the administration takes strong but unspecified action to strengthen the United States militarily.

Several senators expressed exasperation with Haig's refusal to state an explicit position on SALT II. Sen. Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.) pressed him to say how he would vote if he were a senator and had to make a decision yesterday.

"I would refuse to vote," the recently retired supreme commander of NATO said.